

**STATE SENATOR • DENNIS OLSHOVE • 9TH DISTRICT**

# **Olshove Press Release**

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## **SEN OLSHOVE: TECHNOLOGY & ENERGY COMMITTEE SEEKS ANSWERS TO POWER OUTAGE Warren Democrat Praises DTE Employees for Dedicated Efforts to Restore Power**

LANSING- State Senator Dennis Olshove (D-Warren) announced today that the Michigan Senate Technology & Energy Committee is determined to find the cause of the widespread power outage which impacted much of Michigan and the Northeast United States last week. The Vice-Chair of the Technology & Energy Committee, Senator Olshove announced that hearings are being scheduled to investigate the cause of the massive power outage and develop strategies for preventing future occurrences.

“Considering the personal and economic loss associated with such a massive power failure, it’s imperative that we get to the bottom of what occurred,” said Sen. Olshove. “We need to determine how an event that appears to have been a local incident was allowed to snowball into the largest power outage in our nation’s history.”

The committee heard today from the recently appointed chairperson of the Michigan Public Service Commission, J. Peter Lark, as well as several people from the power industry. While the root cause is not yet known, it is widely believed that the outage resulted from a power plant and transmission line that went out in northern Ohio.

Senator Olshove said that there was no evidence to indicate that DTE was in any way responsible for the outage and complimented the employees of DTE for their diligent efforts in quickly restore power. “The fact that DTE was able to beat their own predictions and have all customers back with power by Saturday morning shows what a dedicated workforce they have,” said Sen. Olshove.